

2 March 1951



TO--Region Three IBS Stations
FROM--WKCR, Columbia University, New York City

WKCR started out the new term with a 60 hour "Medesp Marathon" broadcast. Sponsored by a local restaurant, the broadcast lasted from 9:00 PM Friday February 9th until 9:00 AM Monday February 12th. Twelve engineers and thirteen announcers were used on the show, which featured popular music, with telephone requests from listeners. Parts of the Marathon were devoted to a dramatic serial entitled "The Deaf Man-Private Ear." The Saturday night attraction was a remote pickup of the band and entertainment from a dance held on campus.

WKCR's Special Events Department has been kept busy during the last few weeks recording interviews with such leading New York and network radio personalities as Ben Graner, Rayburn and Finch, Symphony Sid, and Walter Kiernan. Through the cooperation of the American Broadcasting Company, we obtained an interview with George Shearing during his recent engagement at Birdland.

Speaking of interviews, on a recent broadcast from the Lion's Den, the campus social center, one girl, asked what work she did, explained that she was a "stuffer." That was not so bad, but when she explained further that she stuffs pimentos in olives, we thought that we had heard everything. Oh, well, someone has to do it.

Another WKCR interview type program, The U.N. Revue, which features as guests prominent U.S. and foreign delegates to the U.N., has recently been rebroadcast by the Voice of America to various parts of the world.

Beginning Monday, March 5, we will broadcast a series of lectures presented by the Institute of Arts and Sciences at Columbia. The topic is, "The Citizen Looks at His World Today." The speakers will include: General George C. Marshall; Dr. Ralph J. Bunch; Judge Harold R. Medina; Dr. Charles R. Johnson, President of Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn.; and Dr. John R. Dunning, prominent Nuclear Physicist and Dean of the Columbia University School of Engineering.

For two weeks last month, WKCR aided Time magazine in an advertising campaign aimed at college students and faculty. This was the first venture of this sort for Time.

WKCR's top writer and director, Ernest A. Chambers, recently had a script accepted for the CBS Dr. Christian program. Entitled "Smart Alec", the story was produced on February 28th, starring Jean Hersholt and Cliff Arquette. For his WKCR program "Imagination", Chambers has adapted for radio "The Miracle of Saint Anthony" by Maeterlinck, and "Samson Agonistes" by Milton. He has written and produced many other scripts in his year and a half with WKCR. Chambers, a Columbia sophomore, is a resident of Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Yours for bigger and better programs and a higher and higher excess profits tax.

John J. Over
John J. Over
President WKCR

Richard E. Pittenger
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General Manager, WKCR

